

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 OES-09 SOE-02 DODE-00
DOE-15 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 COME-00 PA-01 ICA-11
TRSE-00 /125 W

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FM AMCONSUL ZAGREB

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5391

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ZAGREB 703

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENGR, YO

SUBJECT: WESTINGHOUSE CRITICIZED OVER KRSKO DELAYS

SUMMARY: ACCORDING TO "VJESNIK," SLOVENIAN EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
PRESIDENT VRATUSA HAS PUBLICLY CRITICIZED WESTINGHOUSE FOR

DELAYS ON KRSKO NUCLEAR POWER PLANT. HE WARNS THAT FUTURE
SUCH PROJECTS MUST NOT HAVE SAME DEGREE OF DEPENDENCE ON
FOREIGN PARTNERS. END SUMMARY.

1. JULY 26 "VJESNIK" REPORTS VISIT PREVIOUS DAY OF DR. ANTON
VRATUSA, PRESIDENT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF SLOVENIA, TO
KRSKO SITE. ACCORDING TO "VJESNIK," VRATUSA ACCUSED WESTING-
HOUSE OF BEING A "YEAR LATE" IN SUPPLYING REQUIRED EQUIPMENT.
THIS DELAY, IT IS CLAIMED, WILL PUT BACK OPENING OF THE PLANT
FROM PLANNED 1979 TO 1981. EVERYTHING POSSIBLE IS BEING DONE
TO SPEED UP DELIVERY OF THE AMERICAN EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING
INTENSIVE NEGOTIATIONS WITH WESTINGHOUSE WHOSE PRESIDENT IS
EXPECTED HERE SOON.

2. WESTINGHOUSE IS SAID TO BE "ATTEMPTING TO BLAME OUR (YUGO-
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SLAV) SUPPLIERS OF EQUIPMENT." HOWEVER, VRATUSA PRAISED THE
DOMESTIC SUPPLIERS AS HAVING "SUCCESSFULLY FULFILLED THEIR
OBLIGATIONS." HE LABELLED THE KRSKO ENTERPRISE A "GREAT SCHOOL"
FOR YUGOSLAV EXPERTS AND WARNED THAT FUTURE NUCLEAR POWER PRO-
JECTS SHOULD BE BUILT NEITHER "IN THE SAME WAY AS KRSKO" NOR "IN
THE SAME DEGREE OF DEPENDENCE ON FOREIGN PARTNERS." THE ARTICLE
STATES THAT 12 ADDITIONAL NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS WILL BE BUILT IN

YUGOSLAVIA BY THE YEAR 2000.

3. COMMENT: "BORBA" ALSO NOTES VRATUSA'S VISIT TO KRSKO BUT DOES NOT MENTION ANY CRITICISMS OF WESTINGHOUSE. "VJESNIK," ON THE OTHER HAND, HAS BEEN CONSISTENTLY CRITICAL OF WESTINGHOUSE. THIS ARTICLE AND THE STATEMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO VRATUSA SHOULD BE SEEN IN THIS LIGHT. WESTINGHOUSE AND KRSKO NUCLEAR POWER AT SOME POINT MUST ASSESS RESPONSIBILITY FOR DELAYS IN THE PROJECT AND DETERMINE POSSIBLE PENALTIES WHICH WESTINGHOUSE MAY HAVE TO PAY. WESTINGHOUSE AND KRSKO OFFICIALS HAVE ACKNOWLEDGED PRIVATELY THAT BOTH SIDES HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR VARIOUS ASPECTS OF DELAY. WESTINGHOUSE FOR EXAMPLE DELAYED IN SUPPLYING INITIAL CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS AND IS CURRENTLY HAVING PROBLEMS GETTING TIMELY DELIVERY OF CERTAIN ESSENTIAL PIPING MATERIALS. DELAYS ON THE YUGOSLAV SIDE HAVE INCLUDED FAULTY WELDING OPERATIONS, LATE SUPPLY OF EQUIPMENT BY DOMESTIC SUPPLIERS, FAILURE TO MAKE TIMELY ORDERS ON CERTAIN ESSENTIAL COMPONENTS, AND LENGTHY CUSTOMS CLEARANCE PROCEDURES WHICH PREVENTED SCHEDULED DELIVERY TO THE SITES. PRESS ARTICLES PRESENT A MUCH LESS BALANCED PICTURE. GROBEL

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Message Attributes

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